

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 STR-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 M-03

A-01 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 RSR-01 CPR-02

SCS-03 SCA-01 /070 W

----- 038238

R 130945 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6280

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 0272

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, AFSP, BU, US

SUBJ: CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS AND STAFFING PROBLEMS

REF: (A) STATE 44419 (B) SOFIA A-48

1. IN RESPONDING FORMALLY TO ZDRAVCHEV PROPOSAL (REF A)
AND DECIDING WHETHER GIVE PRIORITY TO CONSULAR CONVENTION
NEGOTIATIONS WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA OR WITH BULGARIA ON
BASIS NEW GOB DRAFT (REF B), DEPT SHOULD BE AWARE
STAFFING PROBLEMS THIS POST.
2. TWO OF THREE STATE SECRETARIES HAVE LEFT OR ARE
LEAVING SHORTLY WITHOUT ANY WORD ON REPLACEMENTS.
CONSULAR CONVENTION EXPERT FROM WASH SHOULD PLAN
BRING OWN SECRETARY IF HE COMES BEFORE EMB. SECRETARIAL
STAFF REPLENISHED. ALTERNATIVELY, IF DEPT. ALLOCATES
FUNDS, MAY BE POSSIBLE HIRE WORKING WIFE.
3. STATE PROGRAM OFFICER STAFF BY END APRIL WILL BE
ONLY THREE FIFTHS JANUARY LEVEL. AS CHARGE AND ECONOMIC/
COMMERCIAL OFFICER, HOUSTON AFTER APRIL 15 WILL BE
UNABLE GIVE MUCH TIME TO CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS.
HOWEVER, EMB. CONSULAR OFFICER CAN SPEND HALF
DAYS, AND EMB. TRANSLATOR FULL DAYS, ASSISTING
EXPERT TEAM. DEPT. HOWEVER MAY ALSO WISH CONSIDER
BRINGING TRANSLATOR.
4. ADVISE ASAP DEPT. DECISION ON SENDING EXPERT
TEAM FROM WASHINGTON TO PURSUE NEGOTIATIONS AT
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END OF MARCH.
HOUSTON

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SOFIA00272
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730325/aaaahmgv.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 44419, 73 SOFIA A-48
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29-Aug-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <06-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971119
Subject: CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS AND STAFFING PROBLEMS
TAGS: AFSP, CGEN, PFOR, BU, US
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005